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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN
27TH DISTRICT, FLORIDA

PLEASE RESPOND TO:
2206 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-0927
 (202) 225-3931
FAX: (202) 225-5620
<http://www.house.gov/ros-lehtinen>

DISTRICT OFFICE:
4960 SW 72 AVENUE
SUITE 208
MIAMI, FL 33155
(305) 668-2285
FAX: (305) 668-5970

March 20, 2017

The Honorable Kay Granger
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Defense
H-405, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Peter Visclosky
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Defense
2328 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Granger and Ranking Member Visclosky:

As you begin work on the Fiscal Year 2018 Defense Appropriations bill, I respectfully request the continuation of \$30 million for competitive spinal cord injury (SCI) research.

Thanks to your Subcommittee's support of SCI research, new therapies are on the horizon to give paralyzed servicemen and women hope that they may one day regain function in injured limbs. Continued funding for this important Defense account devoted to SCI research is crucial to building on the program's past progress.

Once again, I respectfully request \$30 million for competitive SCI research in the FY 2018 Defense Appropriations bill. Spinal cord injury research funded through competitive grants from the Department of Defense is vital to advancing important science, health research, and therapies that directly impact the lives of our brave, wounded soldiers.

I appreciate your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Ileana Ros-Lehtinen
Member of Congress